

**WEAVER PREPARES BLOW.
MAY ARREST DURHAM.****Council of War Held Before Prosecution of Machine Leaders.**

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
Philadelphia, June 16.—To revise and perfect his plan for the final blow by which he intends to utterly destroy and obliterate the Durham machine, Mayor Weaver to-day called a council of war within the walls of the historic Union League. There were present besides the Mayor, Elmer Root, James Gay Gordon and Joseph F. Alsbach, the lawyers who will serve the Mayor, and the Committee of Seventy in prosecuting corrupt politicians, and all the members of the Mayor's advisory board of fourteen.

The object of the council was admittedly to consider the prosecution of a number of the principal machine leaders. Early to-day Judge Gordon announced that some arrests were about to be made that would "cause a great sensation," but it is understood that when ex-Secretary Root arrived and learned the startling developments of the Caven case yesterday, when Daniel W. Durham and James P. McNichol were to be the real bidders on the city's great situation contracts, he asked that drastic action be postponed for the day in order that he might thoroughly familiarize himself with the situation. For this reason no arrests were made to-day. They will probably be made, however, to-morrow, and there is ample reason for the belief that the charges upon which they will be based will be of a most sweeping character, including contract grabbing, conspiracies, by which the city has been mulcted of enormous sums.

In expectation that the Mayor's list of men to be arrested includes them, State Insurance Commissioner Israel W. Durham, State Senator James P. McNichol and former Director of Public Works Peter E. Costello are said to have made arrangements to-day to secure bail.

Mr. Durham and James P. McNichol came up from Atlantic City to-day.

Mr. Durham was asked concerning the statements made on the stand yesterday by Daniel J. McNichol, the Senator's brother, and said:

"I have never denied that I was interested in the McNichol contracting firm, and thought that the fact was generally recognized. I have heard rumors that warrants are to be issued for me on a charge of conspiracy, but know nothing of the matter beyond what I have seen in the papers and the reports that are in circulation."

Senator McNichol said:

"Up to the present time the total amount of filtration contracts that have been awarded my firm aggregated \$12,000,000. We are under bonds of \$250,000 for the proper fulfillment of the specifications of those contracts. This bond of our continued in force for five years after the completion of our contracts. I say again that the work speaks for itself, and that every detail connected with those contracts is open to the public investigation."

"I have been at work on those contracts for about four years, and I defy any one to accomplish in twice the time what we have accomplished in those four years. As to the sand contracts, we were recommended to take the contract from the Board of Supervisors, and we did this after careful investigation of the firm and the merits of the sand controlled by it. It was a purely business proposition, and one by which the city was the gainer."

"Everything at the Torredale and Belmont after plants is open to the fullest and most searching investigation, and the result of such an inquiry will show that the city has received full value for every dollar spent by it."

"I know nothing about a warrant for my arrest beyond what I see in the papers. However, I may be at any time, and I am under no more business, and if any one wants me they will have no difficulty in finding me."

ELEVATOR'S LONG FALL.**One of the Two Passengers Unhurt in Twelve-Story Drop.**

A freight elevator, with two men, in the Citizens' Central National Bank Building, at No. 220 Broadway, fell twelve stories yesterday afternoon. While the car was wrecked, both men escaped with their lives. One of the men was not injured badly enough to require medical attention. The injured man, John L. Lynch, of No. 4 Roosevelt, was taken to the Hudson Street Hospital. He had a fracture of the right foot and was injured internally. Last night it was said that Lynch's condition, while not dangerous, was of such a nature that the physicians were puzzled.

The elevator attendant, who escaped without a scratch, gave the name of John Carson, of No. 123 West 16th-st. He said he took the car to the eighth floor for Lynch.

When Lynch got on the car it suddenly became unmanageable, and without warning shot up to the top floor. There the cable broke and the car dropped to the basement, twelve stories below.

Carson said that as soon as he realized that the car was falling he sprang up to the roof of the car and grabbed hold of the framework while the car was making its swift descent, and though his hands and arms were badly wrunged by the fall he was not otherwise injured.

At the building all information was refused, and it was denied at first that there had been an elevator accident. When the news was admitted that an elevator had "dropped just a few stories," only by a subterfuge was anybody able to get a glimpse at the wrecked car. The building is owned by the bank, of which ex-Mayor Strong was once president. It is the office of the Rapid Transit Commission and the private office of Borough President Ahern.

MORE WORTHLESS MEXICAN LANDS.**Victims Who Drew Lottery Prizes Accuse Kansas City Concern.**

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
San Francisco, June 16.—Twenty passengers from Salinas, Cal. Mex. on the steamer New-York, which reached here to-day, were they, as yet, victims of a "get rich quick" swindle, and had been induced to part with their savings for worthless land in the Southern Republic. According to their story the Pan-American Land and Improvement Company, with head offices in Kansas City, offered chances in a lottery for land that would "produce either coffee or rubber." They all drew prizes. Glowing accounts had been given them of the land of which they were the proprietors, but there were more payments to be made before they could receive deeds. These payments were settled, and a visit made to the promised land.

The "prosperous city," within the environs of which their landed estates lay, was found to consist of a few huts, in which were a few lazy and hungry natives, and the land thereabouts for miles was all marsh.

BANKER ARRESTED FOR SPEEDING.**Chester Thorne Travelled Twenty-five Miles an Hour, Stamford Police Say.**

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
Stamford, Conn., June 16.—Chester Thorne, a banker from the Pacific Coast, who lived until recently in the Essex apartment house, New-York, and gives his present address as No. 135 Broadway, New-York, was arrested here to-day by Special Officer Reese for violating the automobile speed law. He gave a bond of \$150 to appear in court to-morrow. Mr. Thorne was driving his machine and Mrs. Thorne accompanied him. The police say he was travelling twenty-five miles an hour over a measured course watched by officers.

See announcement in daily papers of regular summer change of time by the New-York Central Lines, taking effect Sunday, June 18.—Adv.

**A DEADLOCK ON MOROCCO.
DANGER NOT YET GRAVE.****Alarming Rumors Officially Denied—M. Rouvier to Hold Post.**

Paris, June 16.—The strained relations between France and Germany over Morocco continue to give rise to serious apprehension, but while openly admitting that there are real difficulties involved, the officials protest against this admission being made the basis of exaggerated reports. Such reports have been circulated for several days by a small and influential section of the press. One report that Germany had submitted an ultimatum brought out a formal denial from the Foreign Office.

Another report in the "Patrie" is that Germany has demanded that France and Great Britain complete a guarantee that the Anglo-French understanding is not in the nature of an armed alliance against Germany. The "Patrie" asserts that M. Delcasse, when Foreign Minister, signed a secret offensive and defensive alliance with Great Britain.

These reports are dismissed in authoritative quarters as fanciful enlargements of the situation, and an editorial in the semi-official "Temps" to-night gives warning against what it terms "nervous paroxysms."

At the same time the diplomatic strain between France and Germany is undeniably serious. The chief cause of this is the inability thus far of either side to propose a remedy acceptable to the other. France is tenacious to uphold her predominant position in Morocco without subjecting it to inspection and revision by the international congress proposed by Germany. On the other hand, Germany does not recognize French predominance in Morocco or the Anglo-French agreement on which this predominance is based. Thus Germany's issue is equally against Great Britain and France, although the latter is more immediately involved.

All those concerned are making appeal to the friendly co-operation of other nations, so that indirectly all Europe is taking part in the controversy, and this permits a wide range of conjecture concerning a rearrangement of political alliances. The officials maintain that the issue does not involve such far reaching questions, but is the renewal of the long pending struggle over Morocco in aggravated form.

One of the chief causes of the present apprehension is the possibility of some untoward action along the Franco-German frontier, which for years has been garrisoned by formidable military forces.

Premier Rouvier announced at a meeting of the Council of Ministers, held at the Elysee Palace at noon to-day, that he had definitely decided to retain permanently the portfolio of Foreign Affairs and relinquish that of Finance. His decision was the result of the earnest request of President Loubet and his colleagues.

The appointment of M. Merlou as Minister of Finance is considered certain, and it is expected that Premier Rouvier to-morrow will present the new Minister to President Loubet. M. Merlou is at present Under Secretary of Finance.

After leaving the Elysee Palace M. Rouvier returned to the Foreign Office, where he received Dr. Motono, the Japanese Minister, who had requested a meeting for the purpose of delivering a communication doubting relations to the coming peace meeting at Washington.

CONFERENCES AT FEZ.**Hint of Definite German Action—No Alarm in England.**

Fez, June 16.—Much significance is attached to the numerous private audiences which Count von Tattenbach-Ashold, head of the German Mission, has had with the Sultan since the arrival here of the British Minister, Gerard A. Lowther. There is reason to believe that the principal subject of discussion has been Germany's willingness to help the Moorish government in the work of reform, and it is understood that the cause of the ultimate rejection of the proposed international conference on Morocco. Germany will make definite proposals to undertake the reorganization of certain government departments now included in the French reform project.

London, June 16.—While the Moroccan question is receiving much attention in official circles here, no serious difficulties are expected so far as Great Britain is concerned, no matter what decision is reached between France and Germany. Great Britain has probably gone some way further than the other powers in her refusal to take part in the proposed conference, but should France finally agree to a conference, which is now considered probable, Great Britain could do likewise. The attitude of Great Britain is similar to that of the United States.

St. Petersburg, June 16.—The Foreign Office announces that Russia has not entered into any arrangements regarding Morocco. It is believed that if the other powers are able to unite on a policy, Russia will give adhesion thereto.

A CONVICT FOR TURNKEY.**Bank Wrecker Has Valet in Vermont Jail.**

Middlebury, Vt., June 16.—Testimony introduced to-day at the trial of Henry McCormack, who is charged with having broken from the Middlebury jail while awaiting trial on a charge of forgery, brought out the fact that J. W. Ketcham, the federal prisoner, who is serving a seven-year sentence at the jail for the part he took in wrecking the Farmers' National Bank at Vergennes, had been allowed to serve as a turnkey, had had access to the keys of the jail and that the unusual prison luxury of a valet had even been allowed him.

McCormack set up the defence that he did not break jail, as the doors of the institution were open and he simply went away. Deputy Sheriff William H. Cobb, who has been jailer for the last thirty-two years, testified that the doors to the jail could be opened with a crooked wire, and that he kept the keys in a bureau drawer. He admitted that Ketcham was at times allowed to let people in and out, and that at times he acted as turnkey.

MISS MAY IRWIN'S HOUSE AFIRE.**Giant Firecracker Thrown Through Window Starts Small Blaze.**

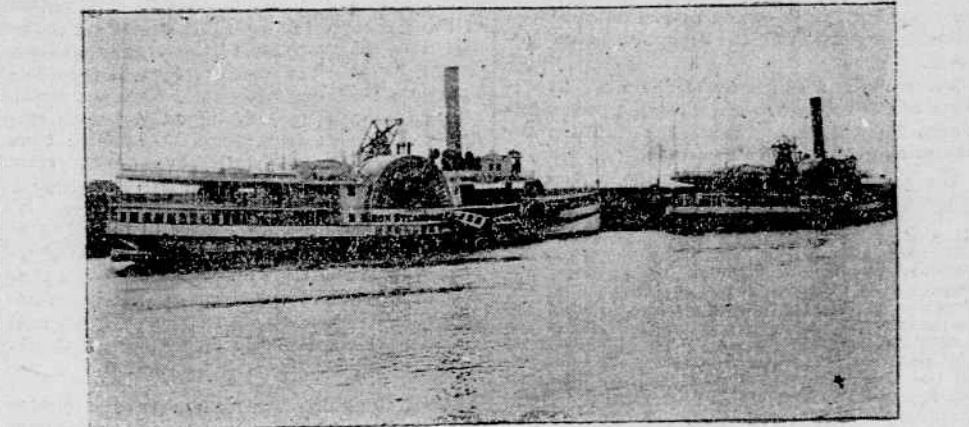
A giant firecracker was thrown through a broken pane of glass into the basement of the three-story house at No. 255 West 52d-st. last evening. It exploded and set fire to the carpet. The blaze was discovered and extinguished by the firemen with a damage of not more than \$24. The house is reported by the police to be owned by Miss May Irwin. The house was closed on June 1.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD'S NEW ASBURY PARK SERVICE.

Beginning June 25, frequent and fast trains in each direction. New flyer leaves Asbury Park at 8:10 a. m. week-days, arriving New-York 9:45 a. m. 17th grade equipment.—Adv.

THE TWO CONEY ISLAND BOATS.

Taken in Erie Basin after their collision off Norton's Point in a fog yesterday.

**HARRIMAN HOME ALARM.****One of Three Men Trying to Enter It Caught.**

A bold attempt was made soon after 10 o'clock last night to break into the home of E. H. Harriman, the railroad man and financier, at No. 1 East 55th-st., just across the street from the St. Regis Hotel. One of the gang of three who had plotted to get into the house was captured after a long chase and after the firing of several shots, which caused excitement in that fashionable neighborhood.

Detective James Kennedy, of the St. Regis, was standing in front of the hotel when he noticed three young men loitering about the darkened Harriman mansion. The Harrimans are out of town and the house is in charge of a caretaker. The men, to divert suspicion, drifted across the street once or twice and peered into the windows of the hotel, as though attracted by the sight of the diners there, but they always returned to the house across the street, keeping as well in the shadow as possible, especially when Policeman Blohm came along, on his way to 54th-st., where he was to turn in his usual call to the station.

The young men evidently knew that Blohm would be away for several minutes, for as soon as he had reached the call box two of them disappeared down the basement steps, while the third, the youngest, remained on guard for a few minutes, and then quickly joined them.

He was with them for about a minute, and then, as though sent back by the others to reconnoitre, returned to the sidewalk. Blohm was turning up the avenue again. The man gave a low whistle and started east along 55th-st. Detective Kennedy shouted to Blohm, and the policeman ran after the fast disappearing intruder. At Madison-ave. Blohm was still some distance behind, and shouted for the fugitive to stop, threatening to fire. The man put on extra speed. The policeman fired twice into the air. The chase ended at the Park-ave. railroad cut, where the burglar had evidently not counted on this bar to his progress. Before he could find a new avenue of escape Blohm had his revolver at the young man's head.

In the mean time the two others had vaulted the low railing on the 5th-ave. side of the house and sprinted up the avenue, followed by Detective Kennedy. Past the St. Regis they ran. Kennedy sent a shot over their heads. The sounds of the shots and the calls of the policeman and detective brought hundreds from the hotel and the nearby streets, and behind Kennedy was a long line of pursuers. The young man dashed east into 45th-st., and before the detective had reached Madison-ave. they had disappeared.

Ruefully the detective went back to the Harriman house, where Blohm and his prisoner were waiting for the result of the other ends of the hunt, and then the three went to the East 51st-st. station. There the prisoner said he was William Kennedy, seventeen years old, a newspaper deliverer, of No. 233 East 55th-st. He told the police the names of his accomplices, and said they were older than he. He said the plan was to lift him over the low fence. He was to try to enter the house, and the others were to follow.

Detective Conroy, on the information given by the prisoner, went to No. 978 3d-ave. after George Miller, a driver. He got him. At the station he admitted that he had been trying to get into the driveway of the Harriman home, but refused to answer other questions. Both prisoners were charged with attempted burglary.

The detectives are looking for the third man, whose name and address they have. Soon after midnight, Detective Conroy arrested Albert Schumacher, fourteen years old, of No. 576 3d-ave. He admitted that for several months he and the two other prisoners had been stealing brass signs and cutting pipe from stores and houses. The visit to the Harriman house, he said, was to cut out a piece of copper pipe running from the porch to the ground.

LACK OF SILVER IN PANAMA.**American Banking Firm Said to Have Failed to Keep Agreement.**

Panama, June 16.—One of the banking firms party to the monetary agreement signed on April 20 at New-York, and approved at Washington on May 3, has refused repeatedly to supply its share of silver to the canal and railroad authorities. This may cause a crisis here. It is feared that the refusal of the banking corporation to fulfill its obligations will compel other bankers to refuse to supply the canal authorities with silver, and if this should happen it would undoubtedly result in the depreciation of the gold dollar, thus rendering useless the efforts of the governments of the United States and Panama.

CAPTAIN KIRKMAN A WRECK.**Friends Believe He May Kill Himself—Not Likely to Serve Out Term.**

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
Omaha, June 16.—A dispatch from Fort Niobrara, Nebraska, says that Captain George W. Kirkman, of the 25th Infantry, who has been dismissed from the army and sentenced to three years' confinement in the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., is regarded by physicians and officers as a physical and mental wreck. He has never recovered from the suicide of Mrs. E. B. Chandler, to whom he was engaged to be married, nor has he ceased to declare that he should take his own life in order to join her in the other world.

While Kirkman failed to satisfy the courts martial before whom he was tried here that he was insane, many of his friends firmly believe that his mind is deranged. They say that no man in his senses would do what he has done, nor say the things that he has said. His disaffection has broken Kirkman's physical health, and it is predicted by some of those who know his condition that he will never come out of the penitentiary alive.

Washington, June 15.—The President has approved the findings in two trials of Captain George W. Kirkman, of the 25th Infantry, sentencing him to dismissal from the army and confinement in the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for three years. Kirkman was connected with the case resulting in the suicide of the wife of another army officer at Omaha.

After all, ELLER'S is the best—Adv.

EXCURSION BOATS CRASH.**Two Coney Island Boats Slightly Damaged in Collision.**

While in a dense fog off Norton's Point yesterday the Cygnus and the Cepheus, of the Iron Steamboat Company, came together and had to go to the Erie Basin for repairs. The boats were running at reduced speed, otherwise there would have been a serious accident to the eighty-eight passengers on both boats.

The Cygnus left Coney Island at 10:43, with two passengers aboard. The Cepheus left Pier 1, at the Battery, at 10:15 a. m., with eighty-six passengers.

The masters of both craft say that they ran suddenly into a fog bank and it was impossible to see a third of a boat's length ahead. The heavy fog was blowing from the north. The Cepheus stopped and started to back water when the Cygnus loomed up off the starboard bow and crashed alongside, tearing and splintering the rail and a portion of the winchroom, which is just forward of the midship gangway.

The damage to the Cygnus was also along the starboard side. Shortly after the impact, when the boats had backed away from each other, the fog lifted, and they proceeded to their piers and discharged their passengers. Later they put into the Erie Basin, and were replaced by the Dreamland and the Pegasus.

The Cephus was in command of Captain William (an Schalk, a son of the master of the General Bloom, when she was burned. Captain Jacob Wise commanded the Cygnus. Both captains reported to the company and were exonerated.

When the boats crashed together there was considerable excitement among the passengers, but it lasted only a moment. The general manager of the Iron Steamboat Company, said that the damage received by both boats was slight. The Cygnus and the Cephus were repaired and will be ready to start on Monday. He said the fog alone was to blame for the accident.

A NEW ATLANTIC LINE?**Royal Mail May Enter Field—Report Discredited Here.**

London, June 16.—The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company is considering a proposition to run a line of passenger steamers from Southampton to New-York, calling at Cherbourg on the westbound trip and at Plymouth and Cherbourg on the eastbound trip.

This announcement was made to-night in trustworthy quarters, but The Associated Press is not able definitely to confirm it.

It is stated that the service will start in about a month, the company having arranged to buy or charter a number of suitable vessels.

When told last night of the reported plan of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, John Lee, manager of the International Mercantile Marine Company, said:

"I do not believe there is a word of truth in the report. There are altogether too many steamers running from Southampton to New-York for another company to come into the field."

Vernon H. Brown, of the Cunard Line, said:

"I cannot see how another line can successfully enter into the New-York and Southampton trade. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has established a reputation for the company to charter or purchase ships which would be for the service of the Cunard Line, and on this side are not willing to part with them. I cannot see how the new line would get any business unless the Cunard Line were to be successful. It would have to have the right kind of ships."

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, of London is one of the oldest of existing steamship companies. It received its charter in 1839, by a government act, and has since established a number of West Indian services, with fast steamers. At its annual meeting, held in London last month, Owen Phillips, chairman of the board of directors, said, notwithstanding the fact that the government had declined all tenders submitted, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was determined to continue running its steamers in the West Indian trade.

At present the company operates a fortnightly service between Southampton and the West Indies to Colon and a similar service from Southampton to Brazil and the River Plate. Its fleet consists of thirty-six vessels with an aggregate tonnage of over 165,000.

Its West Indian mail contract with the British government expires on June 30, and is sought by a competing company, which has established a number of West Indian services, with fast steamers. At its annual meeting, held in London last month, Owen Phillips, chairman of the board of directors, said, notwithstanding the fact that the government had declined all tenders submitted, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was determined to continue running its steamers in the West Indian trade.

LEGISLATOR DIES IN THE STREET.**Bay State Representative Expires on Way to Daughter's Graduation.**

Haverhill, Mass., June 16.—Representative Mellen A. Plunger, one of the prominent members of the Massachusetts Legislature, dropped dead in the main street of this city this afternoon, from apoplexy. In company with his wife and daughter, he was on his way to the Academy of Music to attend the graduation exercises of the Haverhill High School, where another daughter was to receive her diploma.

He was forty-four years old, had been a member of the legislature for three terms, and was being prominently mentioned as a candidate for Governor at the coming Republican State Convention.

GENERAL GOMEZ MUCH WORSE.**No Hope Now Entertained of the Cuban Veteran's Recovery.**

Havana, June 16.—Since midnight the condition of General Maximo Gomez has steadily grown worse. The extraordinary improvement in his condition early in the week caused hope of his temporary recovery, at least, but it is now apparent that the poison resulting from the abscess on his hand, for which he underwent an operation at Santiago early in May, is retarding the action of the heart and other organs so that the general's death may be expected at any time.

The Senate to-day unanimously passed the House measure, appropriating \$100,000 for the benefit of General Gomez.

Commencing to-morrow the Twentieth Century Limited, the New-York Central will leave Grand Central Station at 3:30 p. m., instead of 2:45, and arrive Chicago 8:30 next morning. Eighteen hours, New-York to Chicago.—Adv.

**LINEVITCH ENVELOPED.
BATTLE BELIEVED NEAR.****Oyama Reported in Position to Strike Crushing Blow.**

London, June 17.—The practical certainty that peace negotiations cannot begin for another month leads to the conviction that another great battle will be fought in the interval. According to "The Daily Telegraph's" Tien-Tsin correspondent, a Japanese forward movement has already begun in spite of the rainy season.

"The Daily Telegraph's" Tokio correspondent gives an interesting idea of the situation from a correspondent who is said to be in a good position to know the facts. This correspondent says that the principal Russian depot is at Hua-Shu Pass, whence many light railroads are being constructed northward to facilitate retreat. General Linevitch, bewildered by the strategy of the Japanese, is making repeated reconnaissances and throwing out many scouts. Nevertheless, at the present moment, the correspondent says, all his army is completely enveloped. The Japanese army has made a circle of a hundred miles around Linevitch and is gradually closing in.

The Japanese military correspondent of "The Morning Post" says the Russian evacuation of Omoso shows that General Kawamura's army of the Yalu, despite the difficulties met in a mountainous country, has arrived in time to take part with the movements of the other Japanese armies, and, the correspondent adds, stirring events are imminent.

St. Petersburg, June 17.—An official denial has been issued of reports that General Linevitch and other generals have sent an appeal to the Emperor against concluding peace.

WRECK ON STOLEN RIDE.**"Auto" Owner Looking for Men Who Smashed His Machine.**

E. J. Rickert, of No. 290 West 10th-st., is searching for two men who took his automobile from the garage of the Peerless Automobile Company on Thursday night and went out for a run, ending up in a bad accident.

One of the men is his driver, C. T. Edsall, he says. The name of the other is not known. They took with them Mary Phelan and Mary O'Connell, both of No. 122 West 21st-st.

After a trip to Yonkers they returned by Jerome-ave. Near Moshulu Parkway they failed to see a barrier across the street, and crashed into a trolley pole. The machine was wrecked and all four were thrown out; the girls struck on their heads and were knocked senseless. The men, although severely bruised, picked them up, placed them aboard a trolley car and took them to Fordham Hospital, where one was found to have a fractured frontal bone and the other a broken jaw. Both will probably recover.

Both the men have disappeared. As Edsall took the automobile out without permission, Mr. Rickert will deal with him as severely as the law permits if he finds him. He has placed the case in the hands of the automobile company in whose garage the machine was kept.

TRINITY CLOCK ANTICS.**Renovated Timekeeper Whirls Its Hands, Then Resumes Task.**

For three weeks the clock of Old Trinity has been dismantled, and all the denizens of the financial district, from force of long habit glancing at the ancient timepiece every time they happened to come within range of one of its four faces, have had to fall back on their own watches to learn the hour. It has been necessary to construct and install an entirely new mechanism, but this work is now completed.

At just 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon a little group at Wall and Broad sts., gazing up toward Trinity, attracted the attention of the passers by, who also halted and gazed, for drawing a crowd is the easiest of Wall Street operations. This time, however, there was really something to look at. Two brand new, brightly gilded hands had been fitted to the clock front facing Wall-st., and these hands were being rapidly revolved, several hours backward, then many hours forward, then back and forth again, with a rapidity and an irresponsibility which could never have marked the progress of the old hands at any stage of their service.

Perhaps it was only a limbering up process. At any rate, toward evening the right time was set, and the renovated and rejuvenated clock took up the slow and sober task of recording the hours, not to cease from that measured round of toil perhaps for many years to come.

BEAR CHASES YOUNG BICYCLIST.**Many Bruins Abroad in the Woods of Sullivan County.**

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
Middleton, N. Y., June 16.—Summer boarders in Sullivan County are having plenty of excitement this season because of an unusually large number of black bears. There have been many exciting adventures and several bears have been killed.

George Raymond, of Hurleyville, while riding a bicycle through the woods came on a large black bear, which chased and nearly caught him, owing to the bad road. The bear gave up the chase when the woods were left behind. The animals as a rule, however, are more frightened than the people they meet.

FAST RUN WITH BLAZING CAR.**Freight Train Makes Wild Dash Along North River for Assistance.**

An empty freight car in the middle of a long train caught fire yesterday at 14th-st. and the North River to put the fire out and save the rest of his train was to run the blazing car to 120th-st., where the fire engines could get at it. He ordered the train out in two at the burning car and started on a wild dash for assistance. The locomotive was put to its best speed and the draught caused by the swift pace, together with the wind, increased the flames so that the whole car was a blazing torch in a few minutes. Not only that, but it set fire to half a dozen other freight cars along the tracks on sidings.

Meanwhile an alarm had been turned in at 120th-st., and when the train arrived there the engines were there to attack the flames. There was not much for them to do, however, for the car was practically consumed by that time. The engines were used later in extinguishing flames in other cars up the line. It was said that all the burning caused a loss of less than \$1,000.

The night train from New-York to the White Mountains, leaving Pullman Sleepers, also for St. Albans and Quebec, will this season leave Grand Central Station, N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R., at 9:00 p. m., daily, except Sundays, commencing June 20. The day White Mountains Express, with vestibuled through Buffet Parlor cars for Fabyan, Jefferson and St. Albans and Dining Car, Springfield and White River Junction, will go into service on same day, leaving New-York at 8:40 a. m.—Adv.

**JAPAN'S FRANK REPLY.
TEXT MADE PUBLIC.****Minister Takahira Gains Point by His Open Methods.**

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]
Washington, June 16.—The Japanese Minister to-day made public the text of Japan's response to the President's identic note. The text of the Japanese note is as follows:

The imperial government have given to the suggestions of the President of the United States, embodied in the note handed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs by the United States Minister on the 9th inst., very serious consideration, to which, because of its source and its import, it is justly entitled. Desiring in the interest of the world as well as in the interest of Japan, the re-establishment of peace with Russia on terms and conditions that will fully guarantee its stability, the imperial government will, in response to the suggestions of the President, appoint plenipotentiaries of Japan to meet the plenipotentiaries of Russia at such time and place as may be found to be mutually agreeable and convenient for the purpose of negotiating and concluding terms of peace directly and exclusively between the two belligerent powers.

As soon as the Japanese Minister had given out this note for publication, numerous applications were made to Count Cassini for a copy of the Russian reply, but they were met with the uniform statement that he could not furnish the text and that there was no prospect of its being given out. At the White House it was said that since Japan had given out her reply through her Minister to Washington the publication of the Russian reply must rest with the Russian Ambassador.

TAKAHIRA SCORES A POINT.

It is generally remarked that Minister Takahira has rather scored a point for frank and open dealing by his course in this respect, and it is hinted in diplomatic circles that Russia hardly dares make public the text of her reply because of the discrepancy between it and the version given out in St. Petersburg "for home consumption." It is even hinted that, to some extent, at least, the domestic utterances of the Russian Foreign Office recall the tone of the public utterances of the Chinese government when it was forced to make peace with Japan. Now that Japan's reply has been made public, the adoption of the precise phraseology of the note written by President Roosevelt has become the subject of comment, and it is held to indicate not only a frank and manly disposition on the part of Japan, but a determination to agree, in the President's own words and with his intention, with the request he makes of both belligerents.

In the absence of the publication of Russia's reply there is naturally a disposition to suspect that it is couched in less frank language and that it may even avoid